IFW
DAC

Attorney Docket No. 1615.1001D2C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Dale Tyson ROBERTS et al.

Application No.: 09/820,722 Group Art Unit: 2154

Confirmation No.: 5204

Filed: March 30, 2001 Examiner: Viet Duy Vu

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ACCESSING WEB PAGES BASED ON PLAYBACK OF RECORDINGS

PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT ABANDONED UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.37(b)

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

According to the Decision on Petition mailed May 17, 2006, the above-identified application became abandoned on September 23, 2005 for failure to file a timely and proper response to the Office Action mailed on June 23, 2005, which set a three month period for response. The Petition fee of $1,500 is submitted herewith.

The May 17, 2006 Decision dismissed the previous Petition filed December 27, 2005 which included a request under 37 CFR § 1.37(b), stating that the Petition lacked "the required reply (unless previously filed)". This basis for denial or dismissal of the December 27, 2005 Petition is not understood, since according to the Advisory Action mailed January 27, 2006, the Amendment and Request for Examiner Interview filed on December 23, 2005 was not entered, because "new limitations in some claims (e.g., claim 2) would require further consideration and a new search." Therefore, the "required reply" had been "previously filed" and the December 27, 2005 Petition should have been granted under 37 CFR § 1.37(b) by charging Deposit Account 19-3935, as requested. To avoid a repetition of the denial of this Petition for the same reason, a copy of the Amendment and Request for Examiner Interview filed on December 23, 2005 is attached.

05/25/2006 SZEWDIE1 00000015 09820722
01 FC:1453 1500.00 OP

As requested in the December 27, 2005 Petition, revival of the application under 37 CFR § 1.137(b) and continuation of prosecution under 37 CFR § 1.114 is respectfully requested. The entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition was unintentional, in fact most of the delay was by the Patent and Trademark Office in considering the December 27, 2005 Petition.

If any further fees are required, please charge same to our Deposit Account of 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 5/24/06

By: Richard A. Gollhofer
Richard A. Gollhofer
Registration No. 31,106

1201 New York Ave, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

COPY

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2154
Docket No.: 1615.1001D2C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Dale Tyson ROBERTS et al.

Serial No. 09/820,722 Group Art Unit: 2154

Confirmation No. 5204

Filed: March 30, 2001 Examiner: Viet Duy Vu

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ACCESSING WEB PAGES BASED ON PLAYBACK OF RECORDINGS

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR EXAMINER INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attention: **BOX AF**

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 23, 2005, and having a period for response set to expire on September 23, 2005. A Petition for a one-month extension of time, together with the requisite fee for same, is submitted herewith, thereby extending the period for response to October 23, 2005.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. The following remarks are respectfully submitted.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 5 and 61; AMEND claims 2, 6, 7, 13-15, 17, 25, 33, 37, 41-44, 62 and 66; and ADD new claims 67-115 in accordance with the following:

1. (cancelled)

2. (currently amended) A method for associating local and remote data on a local computer connected to a network, comprising:

outputting on the local computer remote data based on playback of a recording by the local computer, the remote data obtained via the network from at least one storage location dynamically determined when the playback of the recording occurs using an identifier derived from table of contents ~~of~~ information for the recording ~~not stored to identify the recording~~.

3. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 2, further comprising obtaining the remote data using an at least partial pointer corresponding to the recording, the at least partial pointer obtained from the network by the local computer.

4. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 3,

wherein the remote data is display data representing a World Wide Web page, and

wherein the at least partial pointer at least partially defines a uniform resource locator for the World Wide Web page.

5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim ~~5~~ 7, wherein the communication program is a web browser, the network is the Internet, and the remote data is display data representing at least part of one web page.

7. (currently amended) A method ~~as recited in claim 5~~ for associating local and remote data on a local computer connected to a network, ~~wherein the~~ comprising:

automatically executing, on the local computer when a recording is played, a communication program for communication via the network to send information ~~used to determine the identifier includes~~ related to table of contents information for the recording;

dynamically determining, at a remote computer, at least one location where remote data is stored corresponding to an identifier derived from the information sent from the local computer;

automatically sending the remote data from the at least one location to the local computer via the network; and

outputting on the local computer the remote data in association with playback of the recording by the local computer.

8. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 7,

wherein the recording is stored on a disc, and

wherein said executing and determining begins when the disc is inserted into a disc drive coupled with the local computer, regardless of whether the communication program has been initiated.

9. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the remote data includes at least one of an image associated with the recording, animation associated with the recording, and a video associated with the recording.

10. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 9,

wherein the recording is stored on a disc, and

wherein the remote data includes display data representing an album cover associated with the disc.

11. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein said outputting outputs the remote data including at least one name of a song included in the recording.

12. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the recording is on a compact disc containing a plurality of tracks, and

wherein said outputting outputs the remote data including at least one title of a corresponding track on the compact disc.

13. (currently amended) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for associating a recording at a local computer with data at a remote computer coupled to the local computer via a network, comprising:

deriving an identifier by ~~abstracting~~ numerically processing table of contents information ~~associated with~~ for the recording ~~that is not provided to identify the recording~~;

automatically accessing the remote computer at a location dynamically determined after verification of access to the recording by the local computer; and

comparing the identifier with records in a database maintained on the remote computer.

14. (currently amended) A system coupled to a network, comprising:

an access unit to access local data containing no content stored for the purpose of providing enhanced capability;

a processor deriving an identifier by abstracting table of contents ~~of~~ information for the local data ~~not stored to identify the local data~~;

a communication unit to automatically obtain remote data from the network upon access to the identifier; and

a processing unit, coupled to said access unit and said communication unit, to provide the enhanced capability by processing the remote data.

15. (currently amended) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for associating a recording with output of remote data on a local computer connected to a network, comprising:

outputting remote data obtained via the network from at least one storage location determined using an identifier derived from table of contents ~~of~~ information for the recording ~~not stored to identify the recording~~ after verification of access to the recording by the local computer.

16. (previously presented) At least one computer program as recited in claim 15, further comprising prior to said outputting

prompting input of a disc containing the recording; and

verifying access to the recording on the disc.

17. (currently amended) A method for associating remote and local data on a local device connected to a network, comprising:

deriving an identifier at the local device by ~~abstracting~~ numerically processing table of contents ~~of~~ information for the local data ~~not stored to identify the local data~~;

automatically obtaining the remote data from the network by the local device using an at least partial pointer corresponding to the identifier; and

outputting at the local device the remote data obtained from the network, based on access to the local data by the local device.

18. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 17, further comprising obtaining the remote data using at least one uniform resource locator corresponding to the identifier and based on the at least partial pointer obtained from the network by the local device.

19. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the remote data is an Internet resource.

20. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 17, further comprising:

automatically executing a communication program for communication via the network and output of the remote data received from the network, when the local data is accessed; and

automatically requesting the remote data based on the identifier.

21. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the communication program is a web browser, the network is the Internet, and the remote data is an Internet resource.

22. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the remote data include an electronic file of digitally encoded audio.

23. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the remote data include at least one of an image associated with the local data, animation associated with the local data, and a video associated with the local data.

24. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 23,
wherein the local data is an electronic file of digitally encoded audio, and
wherein the remote data include an album cover associated with the electronic file.

25. (currently amended) A system, coupled to a network, to associate remote data with local data, comprising:
an access unit to access the local data;
a processor deriving an identifier by abstracting table of contents ~~of~~ information for the local data ~~not stored to identify the local data~~;
a communication unit to automatically obtain the remote data from the network upon access to the local data, using an at least one partial pointer obtained from the network and corresponding to the identifier; and
an output unit to output the remote data.

26. (previously presented) A system as recited in claim 25, wherein said communication unit obtains the remote data using at least one uniform resource locator based on the at least partial pointer obtained from the network and corresponding to the identifier.

27. (previously presented) A system as recited in claim 26, wherein the local data is included in a recording and is accessed to play the recording for a user of the local device.

28. (previously presented) A system as recited in claim 27, wherein the recording is an electronic file of digitally encoded audio.

29. (previously presented) A system as recited in claim 28,
wherein the electronic file is stored on a disc,
wherein said access unit is a disc playback unit, and
wherein said communication unit requests the remote data upon insertion of the disc into said playback unit.

30. (previously presented) A system as recited in claim 26, wherein the remote data include an electronic file of digitally encoded audio.

31. (previously presented) A system as recited in claim 25, wherein the remote data include at least one of an image associated with the local data, animation associated with the local data, and a video associated with the local data.

32. (previously presented) A system as recited in claim 31,
wherein the local data is an electronic file of digitally encoded audio, and
wherein the remote data include an album cover associated with the electronic file.

33. (currently amended) A method for associating a recording with output of data on a local computer connected to a network, comprising:
outputting remote data obtained from the network upon verification of access to the recording by the local computer, the remote data obtained via the network from at least one storage location determined by ~~abstracting~~ numerically processing table of contents ~~of~~ information for the recording not stored to identify the recording.

34. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 33, further comprising
prompting input of a disc containing the recording; and
verifying access to the recording on the disc.

35. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 33, wherein said outputting outputs the remote data including at least one name of a song included in the recording.

36. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 33, wherein the recording is on a compact disc containing a plurality of tracks, and
wherein said outputting outputs the remote data including at least one title of a corresponding track on the compact disc.

37. (currently amended) A computer system coupled to a network, comprising:
a playback unit to play a recording;
a communication unit to obtain remote data via the network from at least one storage location determined by ~~abstracting~~ numerically processing table of contents ~~of~~ information for the recording not stored to identify the recording; and
an output unit to output the remote data.

38. (previously presented) A computer system as recited in claim 37, wherein said communication unit obtains the remote data using a pointer string at least partially defining at least one uniform resource locator corresponding to the recording.

39. (previously presented) A computer system as recited in claim 37, wherein said communication unit obtains the remote data including at least one name of a song included in the recording.

40. (previously presented) A computer system as recited in claim 37, wherein the recording is on a compact disc containing a plurality of tracks, and

wherein said communication unit obtains the remote data including at least one title of a corresponding track on the compact disc.

41. (currently amended) A method ~~for associating remote data with a recording accessed at a local computer connected to a network to provide enhanced capability based on the remote data~~ as recited in claim 2, ~~comprising:~~

wherein said outputting of the remote data[[,]] obtained from the network ~~and providing~~ provides enhanced capability, ~~upon verification of~~ and

wherein said method further comprises verifying access by the local computer to a recording, containing no content stored for the purpose of providing the enhanced capability, based on an identifier derived by ~~abstraction~~ numerically processing the table of contents ~~of~~ information for the recording ~~not stored to identify the recording~~.

42. (currently amended) At least one computer program ~~stored on a computer readable medium, embodying a method for associating remote data with a recording accessed at a local computer connected to a network to provide enhanced capability based on the remote data~~ as recited in claim 15, ~~comprising:~~

wherein said outputting of the remote data[[,]] obtained from the network ~~and providing~~ provides enhanced capability, ~~upon verification of~~ and

wherein said method further comprises verifying access by the local computer to a recording, containing no content stored for the purpose of providing enhanced capability, based on ~~an~~ at least one identifier derived by ~~abstraction~~ numerically processing table of contents ~~of~~ information for the recording, each identifier identifying at least one record in a database ~~not stored to identify the recording~~.

43. (currently amended) A method for controlling a local computer connected to a network to provide enhanced capability not available from content stored at the local computer, comprising:

controlling the local computer to provide the enhanced capability based on remote data obtained from the network using ~~an~~ at least one identifier derived by ~~abstraction~~ numerically processing table of contents ~~of~~ information for a recording accessed by the local computer, ~~where the contents used to derive the identifier are not stored to identify the recording~~ each identifier identifying at least one record in a database.

44. (currently amended) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for controlling a local computer connected to a network to provide enhanced capability not available from content stored at the local computer, comprising:

controlling the local computer to provide the enhanced capability based on remote data obtained from the network using ~~an~~ at least one identifier derived by ~~abstraction~~ numerically processing table of contents ~~of~~ information for a recording accessed by the local computer, ~~where the contents used to derive the identifier are not stored to identify the recording~~ each identifier identifying at least one record in a database.

Claims 45- 61 (canceled)

62. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim ~~61~~ 66, further comprising obtaining an identifier of the recording by the abstraction of the contents of the recording ~~not stored to identify the recording~~, where the identifier is capable of further abstraction.

63. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 62, further comprising determining an at least partial pointer using the identifier in a process capable of finding multiple recordings approximately matching the identifier.

64. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 63, further comprising obtaining the remote data using the at least partial pointer.

65. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 64, wherein the contents of the recording used to obtain the identifier is used in playing back the recording.

66. (currently amended) A method ~~as recited in claim 65~~ for associating local and remote data on a local computer connected to a network, ~~wherein the~~ comprising:

outputting on the local computer remote data related to a recording ~~is stored on a disc~~ accessed by the local computer, ~~and wherein the~~ the remote data obtained via the network from at least one storage location determined based on an abstraction of contents of the recording ~~used to obtain the identifier~~ that includes table of contents information for the recording.

67. (new) A method of delivering content complementary to a compact disc inserted in a compact disc player coupled with a computer connected to a network, comprising:

inserting the compact disc in the compact disc player coupled with the computer;

obtaining an identifier for the compact disc from table of contents information for the compact disc;

retrieving at least one uniform resource locator related to the identifier, including

searching a local cache for the identifier;

connecting to a remote look-up server to search for the identifier and to return an at least partial pointer, when the identifier is not found in the local cache;

storing the at least partial pointer returned from the remote look-up server in the local cache; and

providing the at least one uniform resource locator based on the at least partial pointer, when the identifier is found in the local cache and when the at least partial pointer is returned from the remote look-up server;

linking to at least one remote device via the network, in response to the at least one uniform resource locator; and

delivering content complementary to the compact disc from the at least one remote device to the computer via the network.

68. (new) A method as recited in claim 67,

wherein a plurality of uniform resource locators related to the identifier are returned from the remote look-up server, and

wherein said linking initially links to a selected remote device corresponding to one of the uniform resource locators related to the identifier.

69. (new) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for delivering content complementary to a compact disc inserted into a compact disc player coupled with a computer connected to a network, comprising:

inserting the compact disc in the compact disc player coupled with the computer;

obtaining an identifier for the compact disc from table of contents information for the compact disc;

retrieving at least one uniform resource locator related to the identifier, including

searching a local cache for the identifier;

connecting to a remote look-up server to search for the identifier and to return an at least partial pointer, when the identifier is not found in the local cache;

storing the at least partial pointer returned from the remote look-up server in the local cache; and

providing the at least one uniform resource locator based on the at least partial pointer, when the identifier is found in the local cache and when the at least partial pointer is returned from the remote look-up server;

linking to at least one remote device via the network, in response to the at least one uniform resource locator; and

delivering content complementary to the compact disc from the at least one remote device to the computer via the network.

70. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 69,

wherein a plurality of uniform resource locators related to the identifier are returned from the remote look-up server, and

wherein said linking initially links to a selected remote device corresponding to one of the uniform resource locators related to the identifier.

71. (new) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for delivering content complementary to a compact disc inserted into a compact disc player coupled with a computer connected to a network, comprising:

inserting the compact disc in the compact disc player coupled with the computer;

obtaining an identifier for the compact disc from table of contents information for the compact disc;

determining at least one uniform resource locator related to the identifier;

linking to at least one remote device using the at least one uniform resource locator via the network using the identifier as a password to access the at least one remote site; and

delivering content complementary to the compact disc from the at least one remote device to the computer via the network.

72. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 69, wherein said delivering delivers the content including at least one name of a song on the compact disc.

73. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 69, wherein the compact disc contains a plurality of tracks, and

wherein said delivering delivers the content including at least one title of a corresponding track on the compact disc.

74. (new) A method for associating a recording with output of data on a local device connected to a network, comprising:

obtaining an identifier for the recording from information provided with the recording to play back the recording;

comparing the identifier with records in a database maintained on a remote computer coupled to the local device via the network; and

outputting remote data obtained from the network upon verification of access to the recording by the local device, the remote data obtained via the network from at least one storage location dynamically determined based on the identifier.

75. (new) A method as recited in claim 74,

further comprising automatically sending the information provided with the recording from the local device to the remote computer, and

wherein said obtaining is performed by the remote computer from the information provided with the recording received from the local device.

76. (new) A method as recited in claim 74,

wherein said obtaining includes generating the identifier by the local device based on the information provided with the recording, and

wherein said method further comprises automatically sending the identifier from the local device to the remote computer.

77. (new) A method of delivering content complementary to a compact disc inserted in a compact disc player coupled with a computer connected to a network, comprising:

receiving the compact disc in the compact disc player coupled with the computer;

obtaining an identifier for the compact disc from table of contents information for the compact disc;

retrieving from a remote computer via the network an at least partial pointer related to the identifier;

linking to a remote device via the network using the at least partial pointer; and

delivering content complementary to the compact disc from the remote device to the computer via the network.

78. (new) A computer system, coupled to a network, to associate remote data and audio, comprising:

a playback unit, located at a first location, to play a recording using information provided with the recording;

a communication unit, located at the first location, to obtain remote data from the network using an at least partial pointer corresponding to the recording;

an output unit, located at the first location, to output the remote data; and

a remote computer, coupled to said communication unit via the network and located at a second location remote from the first location, storing at least one database of recording identifiers derived from the information used to play the recordings, and at least partial pointers and providing said communication unit with the at least partial pointer.

79. (new) A computer system as recited in claim 78, wherein the at least one database stored on said remote computer associates the recording identifiers with at least partial pointers of corresponding World Wide Web pages for a plurality of recordings released by an organization.

80. (new) A computer system, as recited in claim 78, wherein the at least partial pointer is at least one uniform resource locator of at least one World Wide Web page maintained on behalf of at least one person who produced sound for the recording.

81. (new) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for delivering content complementary to a compact disc inserted into a compact disc player coupled with a local computer connected to a network, comprising:

detecting insertion of the compact disc in the compact disc player coupled with the local computer;

obtaining an identifier for the compact disc from table of contents information for the compact disc;

retrieving from a remote computer via the network an at least partial pointer corresponding to the identifier;

linking to a remote device via the network, based on the at least partial pointer; and

delivering content complementary to the compact disc from the remote device to the local computer via the network.

82. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 81,

further comprising automatically sending information, stored on the compact disc to play back the compact disc, from the local computer to the remote computer, and

wherein said obtaining is performed by the remote computer from the information received from the local computer.

83. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 81,

wherein said obtaining includes generating the identifier by the local computer based on information stored on the compact disc to play back the compact disc, and

wherein said method further comprises automatically sending the identifier from the local computer to the remote computer.

84. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 81, further comprising automatically starting a client program within the computer to cause the computer to access the network when the compact disc is inserted in the compact disc player.

85. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 81,

wherein said obtaining is performed automatically upon insertion of the compact disc,

wherein said retrieving of the at least partial pointer automatically retrieves a plurality of character strings at least partially defining uniform resource locators related to the identifier upon determination of the identifier for the compact disc, and

wherein said linking automatically links the computer to a selected remote device corresponding to one of the uniform resource locators.

86. (new) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for delivering content complementary to a compact disc inserted into a compact disc player coupled with a computer connected to a network, comprising:

inserting the compact disc in the compact disc player coupled with the computer;

obtaining an identifier for the compact disc from table of contents information for the compact disc;

retrieving an at least partial pointer corresponding to the identifier, including

searching a local cache for the identifier;

connecting to a remote look-up server to search for the identifier and return at least one character string related thereto, when the identifier is not found in the local cache within a predetermined period of time;

storing the at least one character string returned from the remote look-up server in the local cache; and

providing the at least one character string as the at least partial pointer, when the identifier is found in the local cache and when the at least one character string is returned from the remote look-up server;

linking to a remote device via the network, based on the at least partial pointer; and

delivering content complementary to the compact disc from the remote device to the computer via the network.

87. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 86,

further comprising automatically sending information, stored on the compact disc to play back the compact disc, from the computer to the remote look-up server, and

wherein said obtaining is performed by the remote look-up server from the information received from the computer.

88. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 86,

wherein said obtaining includes generating the identifier by the computer based on information stored on the compact disc to play back the compact disc, and

wherein said method further comprises automatically sending the identifier from the computer to the remote look-up server.

89. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 86, wherein a plurality of uniform resource locators related to the identifier are returned from the remote look-up server, and

wherein said linking initially links to a selected remote device corresponding to one of the uniform resource locators related to the identifier.

90. (new) A method for associating remote and local data stored in a recording accessed by a local device connected to a network, comprising:

automatically executing a program on the local device, when the local data are accessed to play the recording for a user of the local device, to obtain at least one pointer string, corresponding to the local data, from at least one database of local data identifiers derived from the local data and pointer strings stored on at least one remote device connected to the local device via the network;

obtaining the remote data via the network from a content provider based on the at least one pointer string; and

outputting at the local device the remote data obtained from the network.

91. (new) A method as recited in claim 90, further comprising maintaining in the at least one database an association between the local data identifiers and the pointer strings which at least partially define uniform resource locators of corresponding Internet resources for a plurality of items of local data provided by an organization.

92. (new) A method as recited in claim 91, wherein the recording is digital audio and the items of local data are electronic files of digital audio.

93. (new) A method as recited in claim 92, wherein the at least one pointer string at least partially defines an address of a World Wide Web page maintained on behalf of at least one person who produced sound for the recording.

94. (new) A method as recited in claim 93, wherein the remote data include at least one of an image of the at least one person, a video in which the at least one person appears and biographical information about the at least one person.

95. (new) A method as recited in claim 93, wherein the remote data include an electronic file of digital audio.

96. (new) A method as recited in claim 90, wherein the remote data include an electronic file of digital audio.

97. (new) A method for associating remote and local data on a local device connected to a network, the local data including at least one electronic file of digital audio stored on one of a compact disc and a digital versatile disc, said method comprising:

obtaining an identifier, from information used when playing back the local data, when the one of a compact disc and a digital versatile disc is inserted into the local device;

automatically executing, when the local data is accessed, a communication program for communication via the network, after initiating the communication program if the communication program has not been initiated previously;

automatically requesting remote data based on the identifier; and

automatically outputting at the local device the remote data obtained from the network.

98. (new) A method of delivering content complementary to a recording ready for playback by a local device connected to a network, comprising:

obtaining an identifier for the recording from information provided with the recording to play back the recording;

retrieving from a remote device via the network an at least partial pointer corresponding to the identifier;

linking to the remote device via the network, based on the at least partial pointer; and

delivering content complementary to the recording from the remote device to the local device via the network.

99. (new) A method as recited in claim 98, wherein the local device is a computer connected to the remote device via the network, and

wherein said method further comprises:

detecting access to the recording by the computer; and

automatically starting a client program within the computer to control the computer when the recording is accessed.

100. (new) A method as recited in claim 98, wherein said retrieving of the at least partial pointer includes

searching a local cache for the identifier;

connecting to a remote look-up server to search for the identifier and return at least one pointer string related thereto, when the identifier is not found in the local cache within a predetermined period of time;

storing the at least pointer string returned from the remote look-up server in the local cache; and

providing the at least one pointer string as the at least partial pointer for said linking, when the identifier is found in the local cache and when the at least one pointer string is returned from the remote look-up server.

101. (new) A method as recited in claim 100, wherein a plurality of pointer strings related to the identifier are returned from the remote look-up server, and

wherein said linking initially links to a selected remote device at least partially addressed by one of the pointer strings.

102. (new) A method as recited in claim 98,

wherein said retrieving of the at least partial pointer related to the identifier retrieves a plurality of pointer strings at least partially defining uniform resource locators related to the identifier, and

wherein said linking initially links to a selected remote device corresponding to one of the uniform resource locators related to the identifier.

103. (new) A system coupled to a network and associating remote data with local data included in a recording to play back the recording, comprising:

a local device located at a first location, including

an access unit playing the recording for a user of the local device and accessing the local data;

a communication unit, coupled to said access unit, automatically obtaining, upon access to the local data by said access unit, the remote data from the network using at least one pointer string at least partially defining a uniform resource locator corresponding to the local data; and

an output unit, coupled to said communication unit at the first location, outputting the remote data; and

a remote computer, coupled to said communication unit via the network and located at a second location remote from the first location, storing at least one database of recording identifiers and pointer strings, said communication unit obtaining the at least one pointer string from said remote computer.

104. (new) A system as recited in claim 103,

wherein said communication unit in said local device further sends to said remote computer information provided with the recording to play back the recording, and

wherein said remote computer determines, based on the information received from said local device, a recording identifier for the recording corresponding to the at least one pointer string.

105. (new) A system as recited in claim 103,

wherein said local device further includes a processor generating a recording identifier for the recording based on information used to play back the recording, and

wherein said communication unit sends the recording identifier to the remote computer to obtain the at least one pointer string.

106. (new) A system as recited in claim 103, wherein the at least one database stored on said remote computer associates the recording identifiers with at least partial uniform resource locators of corresponding World Wide Web pages for a plurality of recordings released by an organization.

107. (new) A system as recited in claim 103, wherein the at least one pointer string at least partially addresses a World Wide Web page maintained on behalf of at least one person who produced sound for the recording.

108. (new) At least one computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, embodying a method for delivering content complementary to a recording ready for playback by a local device connected to a network, comprising:

obtaining an identifier for the recording from information provided with the recording to play back the recording;

retrieving from a remote device via the network an at least partial pointer corresponding to the identifier;

linking to a remote device via the network based on the at least partial pointer; and

delivering content complementary to the recording from the remote device to the local device via the network.

109. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 108,

wherein the local device is a computer connected to the remote device via the network, and

further comprising:

detecting access to the recording by the computer; and

automatically starting a client program within the computer to control the computer when the recording is accessed.

110. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 108, wherein said retrieving of the at least partial pointer includes

generating the identifier by the local device based on information provided with the recording for playback of the recording;

searching the local cache for the identifier;

connecting to a remote look-up server to search for the identifier and return at least one pointer string at least partially defining a uniform resource locator related thereto, when the identifier is not found in the local cache within a predetermined period of time;

storing the at least one pointer string returned from the remote look-up server in the local cache; and

providing the at least one pointer string as the at least partial pointer for said linking, when the identifier is found in the local cache and when the at least one pointer string is returned from the remote look-up server.

111. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 110,

wherein a plurality of pointer strings related to the identifier are returned from the remote look-up server, and

wherein said linking initially links to a selected remote device at least partially addressed by one of the pointer strings.

112. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 108, wherein said retrieving of the at least partial pointer corresponding to the identifier retrieves a plurality of pointer strings at least partially defining uniform resource locators related to the identifier, and

wherein said linking initially links to a selected remote device at least partially addressed by one of the pointer strings.

113. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 108, further comprising:

sending information, provided with the recording to play back the recording, from the local device to the remote device;

determining the identifier by the remote device based on the information received from the local device; and

comparing the identifier with records in a database maintained on the remote device to find the at least partial pointer corresponding to the identifier.

114. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 108, wherein the content complementary to the recording includes at least one of an image associated with the recording, animation associated with the recording, and a video associated with the recording.

115. (new) At least one computer program as recited in claim 114, wherein the recording is an electronic file of digital audio, and

wherein the content complementary to the recording further includes an album cover associated with the electronic file.

REMARKS

In the June 23, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 2-44 and 61-66 were pending in the application; rejected claims 17-21, 25, 26 and 45-60 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e); rejected claims 2-6, 9-16, 22-24 and 27-44 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a); and objected to claims 7, 8 and 66 as reciting allowable subject matter, but dependent from rejected base claims. In rejecting the claims, U.S. Patents 5,774,664 to Hidary et al. (Reference BA in the Information Disclosure Statement filed March 30, 2001) and 5,978,773 to Hudetz et al. (Reference A in the October 21, 2004 Office Action) were cited. Claims 5 and 61 have been canceled and claims 67-115 have been added. Thus, claims 2-4; 6-44 and 62-115 remain in the case. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In Item 2 on pages 2-5 of the Office Action, claims 2-6, 9-12, 14-44 and 61-65 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hidary et al. First, it is noted that claims 5 and 61 have been canceled and claims 6 and 62 have been amended to depend from claims that were not rejected over Hidary et al. taken alone; therefore, the rejections of claims 6 and 62-65 will be addressed below with the rejection of the claims from which they depend.

In making this rejection, it was asserted that column 4, lines 40-67 and column 5, lines 25-46 of Hidary et al. disclosed "dynamically determining/abstracting a plurality of identifiers (e.g., URLs, server addresses) from information associated/embedded with the program where the embedded information was not stored to identify the playing program" (Office Action, page 2, lines 11-14). However, this portion of Hidary et al., as indicated by the words "URLs, server addresses" and "embedded information" in the rejection, describes "URLs ... encoded onto ... the VBI" (column 4, lines 48-50), where "VBI" is the "vertical blanking interval" (column 3, lines 26-27) and a "URL decoder 12 [which] extracts the URLs, preferably embedded in the vertical blanking interval" (column 5, lines 28-30). Modification of the preferred embodiment as described in columns 9 and 10 to use "a VHS, Beta, DVD or other medium" (column 9, lines 6-7) does not change the fact that the technique disclosed in Hidary et al. lacks steps recited the claims.

The previously pending independent claims have been amended to clarify that the "identifier [is] derived from table of contents information for the recording" (e.g., claim 2, last 2 lines). There is no suggestion in Hidary et al. that the URL embedded in the VBI is derived from table of contents information for the recording. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 2, 14, 15,

17, 25, 33, 37 and 43 and claims 3, 4, 9-12, 16, 18-24, 26-32, 34-36 and 38-42 which depend therefrom, patentably distinguish over Hidary et al. for the reasons discussed above.

In item 3 on pages 5 and 6 of the Office Action, claim 13 was rejected as unpatentable over Hidary et al. in view of Hudetz et al. In making this rejection, column 4, lines 19-30 and column 7, lines 1-28 of Hudetz et al. were cited as disclosing an "index database to store URLs related to a product or service ..., providing addresses that are independent from content providers' addresses" (Office Action, page 5, last line to page 6, line 1). The cited portion of column 4 only states that Hudetz et al. discloses a way to "overcome ... the problems encountered when network addresses are changed" (column 4, lines 19-20), not how that is accomplished. On the other hand, the cited portion of column 7 describes a database with four fields, "a UPC product identification number" (column 7, lines 7-8) which takes up 2 of the fields; " a URL suitable for locating a resource on the Internet" (column 7, lines 8-9); and "a narrative description of the resource addressed" (column 7, lines 12-13) by the URL. There is no suggestion here or any other statement found in Hudetz et al. of an "identifier derived from table of contents information for ... [a] recording" (e.g., claim 2, last 2 lines). Therefore, it is submitted that Hudetz et al. does not overcome the deficiencies of Hidary et al. discussed above and claim 13 patentably distinguishes over Hidary et al. and Hudetz et al. taken individually or in combination.

New Claims

Claims 67, 69, 71, 77, 81 and 86 recite "obtaining an identifier from table of contents information for the compact disc" (e.g., claim 67, lines 4-5). Therefore, it is submitted that claim 67, 69, 71, 77, 81 and 86, as well as claims 68, 70, 72, 73, 82-85 and 87-89 which depend therefrom, patentably distinguish over Hidary et al. and Hudetz et al. for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to the previously pending claims.

Claims 74, 98 and 108 recite "obtaining an identifier for the recording from information provided with the recording to play back the recording" (e.g., claim 74, lines 3-4). Similarly, claim 78 recites "recording identifiers derived from the information used to play the recordings" (claim 78, lines 9-10) and claim 90 recites "the local data are accessed to play the recording for a user of the local device, to obtain at least one pointer string, corresponding to the local data, from at least one database of local data identifiers derived from the local data" (claim 90, lines 3-6). Neither reading URLs embedded in the VBI, as taught by Hidary et al., nor scanning UPCs from a product, as taught by Hudetz et al., suggest the use of identifiers created as recited in any of these claims. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 74, 78, 90, 98 and 108, as well as claims 75,

76, 79, 80, 91-96, 99-102 and 109-115 which depend therefrom, patentably distinguish over Hidary et al. and Hudetz et al.

Claim 97 recites "obtaining an identifier, from information used when playing back the local data, when the one of a compact disc and a digital versatile disc is inserted into the local device" (claim 97, lines 4-5). It is submitted that Hidary et al. and Hudetz et al. do not teach obtaining an identifier in this manner either.

Claim 103 recites "local data included in a recording to play back the recording" (claim 103, lines 1-2) and "at least one pointer string at least partially defining a uniform resource locator corresponding to the local data" (claim 103, lines 7-9). It is submitted that Hidary et al. and Hudetz et al. do not teach this combination of limitations either. Therefore, it is submitted that claim 103 and claims 104-107 which depend therefrom patentably distinguish over Hidary et al. and Hudetz et al. for at least this reason.

Request for Examiner Interview

If the rejections relying on Hidary et al. and Hudetz et al. are not withdrawn as a result of filing this Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to arrange an Examiner Interview prior to issuing another Office Action, to discuss what further amendments would distinguish over Hidary et al. and Hudetz et al.

Summary

It is submitted that the references cited by the Examiner, taken individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the features of the present claimed invention. Thus, it is submitted that claims 2-4; 6-44 and 62-115 are in a condition for suitable for allowance. Entry of the Amendment, reconsideration of the claims and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 12/23/05

By: Richard A. Gollhofer
Richard A. Gollhofer
Registration No. 31,106

1201 New York Ave, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501